



Town of Wenham

Selectmen / Town Administrator
TEL 978-468-5520 FAX 978-468-8014

MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Selectmen
FROM: Peter Lombardi, Town Administrator
RE: Town Administrator's Report
DATE: August 7, 2018

Hamilton-Wenham Public Library Strategic Plan

The Hamilton-Wenham Public Library's Strategic Plan is set to expire next year. The Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners recommends that all public libraries maintain a current plan to create a clear sense of purpose, articulate tangible goals and objectives, and serve as a five-year blueprint for library service planning. As with previous plans, the Town wants to get resident input in this process. The Strategic Planning Committee will only have one required meeting on the evening of October 11, 2018. At that time, the committee will join with a Massachusetts Library System facilitator to brainstorm library goals, discuss an action plan, and craft questions for a short survey that will allow for more community input. If you are interested in serving on this committee, please contact Library Director, Jan Dempsey at 978-468-5577 as soon as possible.

Bond Bill Authorizations for Wenham Projects

I wanted to extend my appreciation to Senator Tarr and Representative Hill for their continued advocacy to secure funding for important upcoming infrastructure projects. Our legislative delegation was able to include \$480k and \$500k in the recently approved Environmental Bond Bill for drainage upgrades on Topsfield Road near the Rail Trail and restoration of the Miles River, respectively. Thanks to their efforts, another \$500k was included in the Economic Development Bond Bill for the installation of at least one traffic signal on Main Street. I will plan to work with them in the months ahead to identify opportunities to access funding to move these important projects forward in the next few years.

Regional Dispatch

The Town received correspondence from Secretary Bennett regarding EOPSS's plan to have State 911 take over management of the RECC by next July 1. Although town officials uniformly cited the importance of maintaining an element of local control in our two meetings with state officials, there is no reference to the proposed governance structure in this letter. The next RECC Board meeting when details about this transition will be discussed will be held in September.

The Finance and Advisory Committee will be meeting in the next week or so to take up the \$9800 Reserve Fund Transfer request for the regional dispatch feasibility study so we can better understand our options with either Danvers or Hamilton.